

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please enter Amendments (A) through (J) provided below:

(A) Please insert the following headings and paragraph at Page 1, line 3 of the Application-as-filed, immediately preceeding the first full paragraph:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is being filed under Rule 1.371 as a National Stage Application of International Application No. PCT/EP2003/007624, which claims priority to the following parent applications: German Patent Application No. 102 33 342.4 filed July 23, 2002; German Patent Application No. 103 03 900.7 filed January 31, 2003; and German Patent Application No. 103 20 983.2 filed May 9, 2003. Each of the foregoing German parent applications are hereby incorporated by reference herein in their entirety.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

(B) Please insert the following heading at Page 1, line 8 of the Application-as-filed, immediately preceeding the second full paragraph:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

(C) Please substitute the paragraph beginning at Page 1 line 32 of the Application-as-filed with the following replacement paragraph:

Among the active ingredients can also be included cholesterol-reducing compounds isolated from plant sources. Here, especially, the cholesterol-reducing

action of a group of plant sterols, in particular phytosterols, phytostanols, and the esters of said classes of compound (inter alia WO 96/38047, WO 99/56558, US 6,087,353) may be mentioned. The latter, especially, however, are not suitable for being taken by all sections of the population (for example exclusions for pregnant women or infants) and are frequently limited in their application. Further natural cholesterol-lowering active ingredients also include extracts from further plant sources, for example artichoke extracts, tocotrienol-rich extracts, garlic or ~~guglipid~~ gugulipid extracts as are mentioned, for example, in the publications EP-A-1 238 590 or IN-A-166998.

(D) Please insert the following heading on Page 5, line 4 of the Application-as-filed, immediately preceeding the first full paragraph:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

(E) Please insert the following heading on Page 5, line 10 of the Application-as-filed, immediately preceeding the second full paragraph:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

(F) Please substitute the two paragraphs beginning on Page 7 line 17 and ending on Page 8 line 1 of the Application-as-filed with the following replacement paragraphs:

The active ingredients within the meaning of the invention comprise cholesterol-reducing substances of the group of the statins, the bile acid resorption inhibitors and bile acid sequestrants, cholesterol absorption inhibitors, fibrates, nicotinic acid derivatives,

and also the group of phytosterols and plant stanols and also cholesterol-reducing plant extracts, for example from artichokes or ~~guglipid~~ gugulipid, and also soy protein-containing products.

The active group statins is taken to mean compounds such as lovastatin [see formula 1 below] (e.g. US-A-4,231,938), ~~paravastatin~~ pravastatin (e.g. US-A-4,346,227), simvastatin [see formula 2 below] (e.g. US-A-4,444,784), fluvastatin (e.g. US-A-5,354,772), atorvastatin (e.g. US-A-5,273,995) or cerivastatin (e.g. US-A-5,177,080) which act specifically in the liver via inhibition of cholesterol synthase (HMG CoA reductase inhibitors). These active substances have been described many times and are widely used as drugs and for therapy (e.g. US-A-6,180,660) for cholesterol reduction.

(G) Please delete the following duplicate paragraph beginning on Page 8, line 17 and ending on Page 8, line 26 of the Application-as-filed:

~~Inhibitors of bile acid resorption within the meaning of the invention are taken to mean substances which prevent the reuptake of bile acids in the intestine/ileum via a receptor-mediated process. These are, in particular, benzothiazepine derivatives (US 5,998,400, US 6,277,831), benzothiepine 1,1-dioxide derivatives (US 6,221,897, WO 97/33882), in particular compounds according to formulae 3 and 4 which, in the intestine, in particular in the ileum, specifically cause a blockade of bile acid resorption.~~

(H) Please substitute the section beginning on Page 9 line 2 of the Application-as-filed with the following replacement section:

Formula 3: benzothiepine derivatives

(where $R = C_6H_4NHZR^3$, $C_6H_4NHZR^3$; $R^1, R^4, R^5 = Me, Et, Pr, Bu$; $R^2 = H, OH, NH_2$, amino(alkyl); $R^3 =$ sugar radical; $Z = -(C=O)_n-(C_0-C_{16})$ -alkyl-, $-(C=O)_n-(C_0-C_{16})$ -alkyl-

NH-, $-(C=O)_n-(C_0-C_{16})\text{-alkyl-O-}$, $-(C=O)_n-(C_0-C_{16})\text{-alkyl-(C=O)}_m$ or a covalent bond; n = 0 or 1; m = 0 or 1, and also salts thereof)

(I) Please substitute the paragraphs beginning on Page 11 line 10 and ending on Page 12, line 9 of the Application-as-filed with the following replacement paragraphs:

Further plant extracts having a cholesterol-reducing activity include, inter alia, artichoke extracts and extracts of garlic and ~~guglipid~~ gugulipid. They have already long been used as natural healing substances and exhibit moderate activity on the total and LDL cholesterol levels.

~~Guglipid~~ Gugulipid (CAS 39025-24-6) within the meaning of the invention is the plant exudate of Commiphora mukul. (also Commiphora wightii or Balsamodendron mukul), a tree-like plant of the Burseraceae family. ~~Guglipid~~ Gugulipid within the meaning of the invention is likewise the "Guggulu", "Guggul", "Arka Guggalu" or "Gum Guggul" used in aryuvedic medicine. In addition, ~~guglipids~~ gugulipids within the meaning of the invention are the extracts isolated from the plants of the Burseraceae family, or the isolates or pure substances isolated therefrom. ~~Guglipids~~ Gugulipids within the meaning of the invention are also the guggulsterols and isomers thereof, for example Z-guggulsterol (CAS 85769-67-1), guggulsterol I (CAS 39025-25-7), guggulsterol II (CAS 39025-26-8), guggulsterol III (CAS 39025-27-9), guggulsterol IV (CAS 20281-70-3), guggulsterol V (CAS 6120-71-4), guggulsterol VI (CAS 61391-01-3), 16-epiguggulsterol III (CAS 84709-26-2), E-guggulsterol, M-guggulsterol, dihydroguggulsterol-M, ~~gugulsterol-Y~~ guggulsterol-Y and also guggulsterones. In addition, ~~guglipids~~ gugulipids within the meaning of the invention are all plant sterols and stanols found in the plants of the Burseraceae family, in particular sitosterol, stigmasterol, cholesterol, campesterol and α -spinasterol. In addition, ~~guglipids~~ gugulipids within the meaning of the invention are pharmaceutical products which are produced from the plant

exudate or the pure chemical compounds, for example "gugulipid" from the company

Legere Pharmaceuticals or food supplements, or food additives, for example

"CholestGar" from the company Planetary Formulas.